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FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK, NY 10112

EXAMINER

RAPP, CHAD

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2125

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9

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/988,573

Applicant(s)

OGUSHI ET AL.

Examiner

Chad Rapp

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11/20/01.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 31-73 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 31-73 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 08/902,160.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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1. Claims 31-73 are presented for examination.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. Applicant needs to file all form PTO-1449's, so they can be considered.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 49, 51 and 59 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 49, line 2 "factors" should be changed to "factories".

In claim 51, line 1 "shearing" should be changed to "sharing".

In claim 59, line 4 "sheets" should be changed to "states".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 43 and 72 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 43, line 2 "the same types of semiconductor apparatuses" should be changed to "a same type of semiconductor apparatuses".

In claim 72, lines 2-3 "the codec systems" should be changed to "a codec system".

6. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

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7. Claims 31-73 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The claims have the term "Internet" in claims 31, 40, 44, 51, 58 and 66. The specification does not explain how the Internet is used. The specification explains how the internet(small "i") is used. Internet is defined as a specific collection of interconnected networks spanning more than forty countries throughout the world. An internet(small "i") is any connection of two or more computer networks.

Double Patenting

8. Claims 40-50 of this application conflict with claims 32-42 of Application No. 09/988,572. 37 CFR 1.78(b) provides that when two or more applications filed by the same applicant contain conflicting claims, elimination of such claims from all but one application may be required in the absence of good and sufficient reason for their retention during pendency in more than one application. Applicant is required to either cancel the conflicting claims from all but one application or maintain a clear line of demarcation between the applications. See MPEP § 822.

Note: In the amendment of Application No. 09/988,572 the applicant stated that the conflicting claims in 09/988,573 would be cancelled. The examiner has to reject claims 40-50 based on the double patenting until officially the claims 40-50 of Application No. 09/988,573 are cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

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9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 31-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemper et al. in view of Tsuyama et al.

Kemper et al. teaches the claimed invention (claim 31) substantially as claimed including a remote maintenance system for industrial equipment installed at a remote location comprising:

a. Security system that allows a limited user of the industrial equipment to access the database through the Internet is taught as a diagnostic center provides security based on the fact that an authorization must be transmitted(col. 6 lines 41-58).

Kemper et al. teaches the above listed details of the independent claim 31, however, Kemper et al. does not teach: a database system which is connected to the Internet and stores maintenance information of the industrial equipment and the database used for handling a trouble associated with the industrial equipment.

Tsuyama et al. teaches :

a. A database system which is connected to the Internet and stores maintenance information of the industrial equipment is taught as a large capacity storage unit(106)(col. 3 lines 44-50);

b. The database used for handling a trouble associated with the industrial equipment is taught as failure code, action classification and part number(col. 4 lines 3 and 50-53).

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Tsuyama et al. because the Tsuyama et al. invention provides an integrated quality control system which analyzes quality data in real time at a work station. Since data can be analyzed at the work station, the turnaround time of analyzing tasks can be shortened.

As to claim 32, Kemper et al. teaches wherein said database is updated based on the access of the user is taught as an expert system diagnostic feature in which, as well, known, the historical database is continually updated with newly provided information. Manual input to the management system is provided through the operator terminal(col. 1 lines 61-63 and col. 3 lines 18-27).

As to claim 33, Tsuyama et al. teaches wherein said database stores information for identifying an industrial equipment, trouble states that may occur in the identified industrial equipment, and corresponding countermeasures against the registered trouble states is taught as failure code, action classification and part number(col. 4 lines 3 and 50-53).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Tsuyama et al. because the Tsuyama et al. invention provides an integrated quality control system which analyzes quality data in real time at a work station. Since data can be analyzed at the work station, the turnaround time of analyzing tasks can be shortened.

11. Claims 34 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemper et al. in view of Tsuyama et al. and further in view of Chen et al.

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Kemper et al. and Tsuyama et al. teach the claimed invention (claim 31) see paragraph number 10 above.

As to claims 34 and 35, Chen et al. teaches wherein said database system automatically notifies an appropriate personnel of the trouble with the industrial equipment and sends e-mail to the appropriate personnel is taught as responsible personnel are notified by e-mail(abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Chen et al. because this allows immediate response to any problems with the manufacturing facility. This can decrease the amount of damage to parts or machines since it is immediately sent to appropriate personnel.

12. Claim 36 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemper et al. in view of Tsuyama et al. and further in view of Palusamy et al.

Kemper et al. and Tsuyama et al. teach the claimed invention (claim 31) see paragraph number 10 above.

As to claim 36, Palusamy et al. teaches that further comprises a LAN system connecting a plurality of computers and the database system, each of the plurality of computers being capable of accessing the database system through the LAN system is taught as a common database of information is contacted via the network coupled to data terminals(abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Palusamy et al. because it allows various department to share the information also the system anticipates

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impending conditions so that they can be fixed. By correcting the system using ranks or prioritizing changes can be made to reduce downtime.

13. Claims 37 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemper et al. in view of Tsuyama et al. and further in view of Audebert.

Kemper et al. and Tsuyama et al. teach the claimed invention (claim 31) see paragraph number 10 above.

As to claim 37, Audebert teaches wherein said security system comprises at least one of a codec system providing an encoded communication and a fire wall is taught as an encryption and a fire wall is a hardware or software that decides whether it is safe to let information pass through to the network. The second unit(firewall) based on a correct password allows access or denies access to the network(abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Audebert because the invention allows conditional access to users and blocks users that should not receive information. This places the network in a secure nature.

As to claim 38, Audebert teaches that wherein said codec system periodically changes codec algorithms is taught as the encryption is carried out in each unit by a public algorithm using a dynamically varying encryption key(abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Audebert because the invention allows conditional access to users and blocks users that should not receive

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information. This places the network in a secure nature since the encryption changes periodically.

14. Claim 39 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemper et al. in view of Tsuyama et al. and further in view of Fukuda et al.

Kemper et al. and Tsuyama et al. teach the claimed invention (claim 31) see paragraph number 10 above.

As to claim 39, Fukuda et al. teaches that wherein the industrial equipment comprises a semiconductor manufacturing apparatus and the maintenance information comprise trouble information of the semiconductor apparatus is taught as a semiconductor production system having production management section for providing a plurality of processing equipment with process data(col. 5 lines 65-67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Fukuda et al. because both references have overlapping characteristics such as the monitoring and communicating of industrial process data from various locations to a central collection point.

15. Claims 51 and 52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemper et al. in view of Tsuyama et al. and further in view of La et al.

Kemper et al. teaches the claimed invention (claim 51) substantially as claimed including a method for sharing information of industrial equipment comprising:

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a. allowing a first specified user of the industrial equipment with a first security system to access the database through the Internet is taught as a diagnostic center provides security based on the fact that an authorization must be transmitted(col. 6 lines 41-58).

Kemper et al. teaches the above listed details of the independent claim 51, however, Kemper et al. does not teach: providing a database system which is connected to the Internet and stores information of the industrial equipment and allowing a second specified user, different from the first specified user, of the industrial equipment with a second security system to access the database through the Internet, wherein the first and second security systems have different kinds of Codec system from each other.

Tsuyama et al. teaches :

a. providing a database system which is connected to the Internet and stores information of the industrial equipment is taught as a large capacity storage unit(106)(col. 3 lines 44-50).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Tsuyama et al. because the Tsuyama et al. invention provides an integrated quality control system which analyzes quality data in real time at a work station. Since data can be analyzed at the work station, the turnaround time of analyzing tasks can be shortened.

La et al. teaches :

c. Allowing a second specified user, different from the first specified user, of the industrial equipment with a second security system to access the database through the Internet, wherein the first and second security systems have different kinds of Codec system

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from each other is taught as password security is access by type of user which means that each type of user has a different password to go further into the system. Some user have limited access while other have full access(col. 2 line 66 to col. 3 line 6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of La et al. because the automated set up would save time and cost expended by technicians gathering information and it would increase product yields due to faster determination that defects were occurring which would allow faster corrections.

As claim 52, Tsuyama et al. teaches that wherein the database stores information for identifying an industrial equipment, trouble states that may occur in the identified industrial equipment, and corresponding countermeasures against the registered trouble states is taught as failure code, action classification and part number(col. 4 lines 3 and 50-53).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Tsuyama et al. because the Tsuyama et al. invention provides an integrated quality control system which analyzes quality data in real time at a work station. Since data can be analyzed at the work station, the turnaround time of analyzing tasks can be shortened.

16. Claims 53 and 54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemper et al. in view of Tsuyama et al. and in view of La et al. and further in view of Chen et al.

Kemper et al. , Tsuyama et al. and La et al. teach the claimed invention (claim 51) see paragraph 15 above.

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As to claims 53 and 54, Chen et al. teaches that further comprising a step of automatically notifying an appropriate personnel of trouble with the industrial equipment and automatically sending an e-mail to the appropriate personnel is taught as responsible personnel are notified by e-mail(abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Chen et al. because this allows immediate response to any problems with the manufacturing facility. This can decrease the amount of damage to parts or machines since it is immediately sent to appropriate personnel.

17. Claims 55 and 56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemper et al. in view of Tsuyama et al. and in view of La et al. and further in view of Audebert.

Kemper et al., Tsuyama et al. and La et al. teach the claimed invention (claim 51) see paragraph 15 above.

As to claim 55, Audebert teaches that wherein each of the first and second security systems comprises at least one of a codec system providing an encoded communication and a firewall is taught as an encryption and a fire wall is a hardware or software that decides whether it is safe to let information pass through to the network. The second unit(firewall) based on a correct password allows access or denies access to the network(abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Audebert because the invention allows conditional access to users and blocks users that should not receive information. This places the network in a secure nature.

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As to claim 56, Audebert teaches that wherein each of the codec systems periodically changes codec algorithms is taught as the encryption is carried out in each unit by a public algorithm using a dynamically varying encryption key(abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Audebert because the invention allows conditional access to users and blocks users that should not receive information. This places the network in a secure nature since the encryption changes periodically.

18. Claim 57 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemper et al. in view of Tsuyama et al. and in view of La et al. and further in view of Fukuda et al.

Kemper et al., Tsuyama et al. and La et al. teach the claimed invention (claim 51) see paragraph 15 above.

As to claim 57, Fukuda et al. teaches that wherein the industrial equipment comprises a semiconductor manufacturing apparatus and the information comprise trouble information of the semiconductor apparatus is taught as a semiconductor production system having production management section for providing a plurality of processing equipment with process data(col. 5 lines 65-67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Fukuda et al. because both references have overlapping characteristics such as the monitoring and communicating of industrial process data from various locations to a central collection point.

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19. Claims 58 and 59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemper et al. in view of Tsuyama et al. and further in view of La et al.

Kemper et al. teaches the claimed invention (claim 58) substantially as claimed including a method for sharing information of industrial equipment comprising:

a. allowing a limited user of the first and the second industrial equipment with security systems to access the first and second databases through the Internet is taught as a diagnostic center provides security based on the fact that an authorization must be transmitted(col. 6 lines 41-58).

Kemper et al. teaches the above listed details of the independent claim 58, however Kemper et al. does not teach: providing a first database system which is connected to the Internet and stores information of first industrial equipment and providing a second database system which is connected to the Internet and stores information of second industrial equipment.

Tsuyama et al. teaches :

a. Providing a first database system which is connected to the Internet and stores information of first industrial equipment is taught as a large capacity storage unit(106)(col. 3 lines 44-50).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Tsuyama et al. because the Tsuyama et al. invention provides an integrated quality control system which analyzes quality data in real time at a work station. Since data can be analyzed at the work station, the turnaround time of analyzing tasks can be shortened.

La et al. teaches :

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b. Providing a second database system which is connected to the Internet and stores information of second industrial equipment is taught as various vendors have separate databases because they have developed proprietary methods for collecting, processing, storing and outputting data(col. 1 lines 66-67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of La et al. because the automated set up would save time and cost expended by technicians gathering information and it would increase product yields due to faster determination that defects were occurring which would allow faster corrections.

As to claim 59, Tsuyama et al. teaches that wherein each of the databases stores information for identifying industrial equipment, trouble states that may occur in the identified industrial equipment, and corresponding countermeasures against the registered trouble states is taught as failure code, action classification and part number(col. 4 lines 3 and 50-53).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Tsuyama et al. because the Tsuyama et al. invention provides an integrated quality control system which analyzes quality data in real time at a work station. Since data can be analyzed at the work station, the turnaround time of analyzing tasks can be shortened.

As to claim 65, La et al. teaches that wherein the first and second databases are provided by different vendors from each other is taught as various vendors have separate databases because they have developed proprietary methods for collecting, processing, storing and outputting data(col. 1 lines 66-67).

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of La et al. because the automated set up would save time and cost expended by technicians gathering information and it would increase product yields due to faster determination that defects were occurring which would allow faster corrections.

20. Claims 60 and 61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemper et al. in view of Tsuyama et al. and in view of La et al. and further in view of Chen et al.

Kemper et al. , Tsuyama et al. and La et al. teach the claimed invention (claim 58) see paragraph number 19 above.

As to claims 60 and 61, Chen et al. teaches that further comprising a step of automatically notifying an appropriate personnel of trouble with the first or second industrial equipment and automatically sending an e-mail to the appropriate personnel is taught as responsible personnel are notified by e-mail(abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Chen et al. because this allows immediate response to any problems with the manufacturing facility. This can decrease the amount of damage to parts or machines since it is immediately sent to appropriate personnel.

21. Claims 62 and 63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemper et al. in view of Tsuyama et al. and in view of La et al. and further in view of Audebert.

Kemper et al. , Tsuyama et al. and La et al. teach the claimed invention (claim 58) see paragraph number 19 above.

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As to claim 62, Audebert teaches that wherein the security system includes at least one of a codec system providing an encoded communication and a fire wall is taught as an encryption and a fire wall is a hardware or software that decides whether it is safe to let information pass through to the network. The second unit(firewall) based on a correct password allows access or denies access to the network(abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Audebert because the invention allows conditional access to users and blocks users that should not receive information. This places the network in a secure nature.

As to claim 63, Audebert teaches that wherein each of the codec systems periodically changes codec algorithms is taught as the encryption is carried out in each unit by a public algorithm using a dynamically varying encryption key(abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Audebert because the invention allows conditional access to users and blocks users that should not receive information. This places the network in a secure nature since the encryption changes periodically.

22. Claims 60 and 61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemper et al. in view of Tsuyama et al. and in view of La et al. and further in view of Fukuda et al.

Kemper et al. , Tsuyama et al. and La et al. teach the claimed invention (claim 58) see paragraph number 19 above.

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As to claim 64, Fukuda et al. teaches that wherein each of the first and second industrial equipment includes a semiconductor manufacturing apparatus and the information includes trouble information of the semiconductor apparatus is taught as a semiconductor production system having production management section for providing a plurality of processing equipment with process data(col. 5 lines 65-67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Fukuda et al. because both references have overlapping characteristics such as the monitoring and communicating of industrial process data from various locations to a central collection point.

23. Claims 66-68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemper et al. in view of Tsuyama et al. and further in view of Palusamy et al.

Kemper et al. teaches the claimed invention (claim 66) substantially as claimed including a method for sharing information of industrial equipment comprising:

a. Allowing a user of the industrial equipment with a security system to access the database through the Internet is taught as a diagnostic center provides security based on the fact that an authorization must be transmitted(col. 6 lines 41-58).

Kemper et al. teaches the above listed details of the independent claim 66, however, Kemper et al. does not teach: providing a database system which is connected to the Internet and stores information of industrial equipment and connecting a plurality of departments, of a vendor who provides the equipment, with a computer network system such that each of the departments is able to access the database system, the plurality of departments including at least one of a maintenance department, a manufacturing department and a developing department.

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Tsuyama et al. teaches :

a. Providing a database system which is connected to the Internet and stores information of industrial equipment is taught as a large capacity storage unit(106)(col. 3 lines 44-50).

Palusamy et al. teaches :

b. Connecting a plurality of departments, of a vendor who provides the equipment, with a computer network system such that each of the departments is able to access the database system, the plurality of departments including at least one of a maintenance department, a manufacturing department and a developing department is taught as this information system integrates maintenance, engineering and management interests in a common database of information via network coupled to data terminals. This data is provided in a hierarchical data acquisition and processing system providing shared access by the different departments, especially operations, maintenance and engineering and it even possible to allow vendor access in order to enable them to access the conditions under requested equipment is to operate or to access the present conditions applicable to the equipment already supplied(abstract, col. 2 lines 12-16 and col.10 lines 9-13).

As to claim 67, It would have been obverses to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to have that wherein each of the departments is able to fully access the database system and the user is able to access limited information of the database system because the departments understand the defects and the corrections to the defect where a limited user does not have the knowledge or correct job to make the determination, so the user should be limited in what he or she can effect.

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As to claim 68, Tsuyama et al. teaches wherein the database stores information for identifying an industrial equipment, trouble states that may occur in the identified industrial equipment, and corresponding countermeasures against the registered trouble states is taught as failure code, action classification and part number(col. 4 lines 3 and 50-53).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Tsuyama et al. because the Tsuyama et al. invention provides an integrated quality control system which analyzes quality data in real time at a work station. Since data can be analyzed at the work station, the turnaround time of analyzing tasks can be shortened.

24. Claims 69 and 70 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemper et al. in view of Tsuyama et al. and in view of Palusamy et al. and further in view of Chen et al.

Kemper et al., Tsuyama et al. and Palusamy et al. teach the claimed invention (claim 66) see paragraph number 23 above.

As to claims 69 and 70, Chen et al. teaches that further comprising a step of automatically notifying an appropriate personnel of trouble with the industrial equipment and automatically sending an e-mail to the appropriate personnel is taught as responsible personnel are notified by e-mail(abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Chen et al. because this allows immediate response to any problems with the manufacturing facility. This can decrease the amount of damage to parts or machines since it is immediately sent to appropriate personnel.

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25. Claims 71 and 72 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemper et al. in view of Tsuyama et al. and in view of Palusamy et al. and further in view of Audebert.

Kemper et al., Tsuyama et al. and Palusamy et al. teach the claimed invention (claim 66) see paragraph number 23 above.

As to claim 71, Audebert teaches that wherein the security system includes at least one of a codec system providing an encoded communication and a fire wall is taught as an encryption and a fire wall is a hardware or software that decides whether it is safe to let information pass through to the network. The second unit(firewall) based on a correct password allows access or denies access to the network(abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Audebert because the invention allows conditional access to users and blocks users that should not receive information. This places the network in a secure nature.

As to claim 72, Audebert teaches that wherein each of the codec system periodically changes codec algorithms is taught as the encryption is carried out in each unit by a public algorithm using a dynamically varying encryption key(abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Audebert because the invention allows conditional access to users and blocks users that should not receive information. This places the network in a secure nature since the encryption changes periodically.

Art Unit: 2125

26. Claim 73 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kemper et al. in view of Tsuyama et al. and in view of Palusamy et al. and further in view of Fukuda et al.

Kemper et al., Tsuyama et al. and Palusamy et al. teach the claimed invention (claim 66) see paragraph number 23 above.

As to claim 73, Fukuda et al teaches that wherein the industrial equipment comprises a semiconductor manufacturing apparatus and the information comprise trouble information of the semiconductor apparatus is taught as a semiconductor production system having production management section for providing a plurality of processing equipment with process data(col. 5 lines 65-67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made or used to modify the teachings of Kemper et al. with the teachings of Fukuda et al. because both references have overlapping characteristics such as the monitoring and communicating of industrial process data from various locations to a central collection point.

Conclusion

27. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chad Rapp whose telephone number is (703)306-4528. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 11:00-7:00.

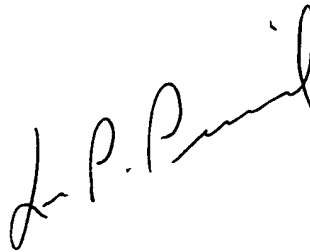
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo Picard can be reached on (703)308-0538. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)746-7239 for Official communications, (703)746-7240 for Non-official/draft communications and (703)746-7238 for After Final communications.

Art Unit: 2125

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-9600.

Chad Rapp
Examiner
Art Unit 2125

cjr
July 25, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. P. Picard", written diagonally across the page.

LEO PICARD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100